

**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
NORTH COUNTY OFFICE**

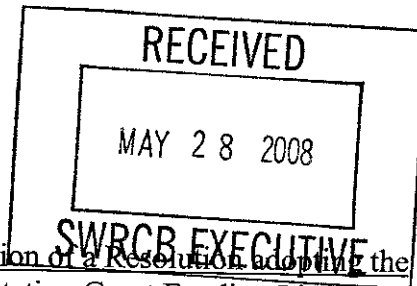
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SCOTT D. MCGOLPIN
Director

May 22, 2008

Ms. Tam Doduc, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I St., 17th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814



**RE: SWRCB June 3 Meeting – Agenda Item 9 - Consideration of a Resolution adopting the
“Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant Funding List”**

Dear State Water Resources Control Board Members:

We applaud SWRCB and DWR staff for their thoughtful evaluation of the Santa Barbara Countywide Proposition 50 Round 2 projects and urge the SWRCB to approve and adopt the “Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant Funding List” from Agenda Item 9.

IRWM grant funding is critical to County of Santa Barbara for projects that will improve water quality, enhance reliability, and maximize use of local supplies. Specifically, the IRWM funding will enable communities to begin the implementation of projects that will address key water issues such as:

- Rehabilitation of aging infrastructure,
- Inadequate drinking water quality in two disadvantaged communities,
- Regional water supply reliability in light of the reduction of SWP water supplies due to environmental protection needs,
- Methods for minimizing impacts to sensitive habitats and species,
- Protection of ocean water quality,
- Provision of new water supply and improved water quality to over-drafted water basins, and
- ~~Protection of people and property from flooding surrounded by a substandard levee.~~

As a partner in the Santa Barbara Countywide IRWM planning and project effort, we thank you for your consideration of this important grant funding recommendation and support approval of your staff's recommendation.

Sincerely,

Martin Wilder, P.E.
County of Santa Barbara
Department of Public Works
Manager, Laguna County Sanitation District
Cc: Mr. Lester Snow, Department of Water Resources

AA /EEO Employer

Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Director

Rochelle Camozzi, Business Manager

Dacé B. Morgan, Deputy Director

Michael B. Emmons, Deputy Director

Mark A. Schleich, Deputy Director

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